

Recorded water levels in this bulletin are derived from a representative network of water level gages on each lake (see cover map). Providers of these data are the National Ocean Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, and the Marine Environmental Data Service, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada. Historic and projected lake levels are derived by the Detroit District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Environment Canada, under the auspices of the Coordinating Committee on Great Lakes Basic Hydraulic and Hydrologic Data.

This bulletin is produced monthly as a public service. Tables of possible storm-induced rises at key locations on the Great Lakes are available on request. The Corps also publishes the "Great Lakes, Connecting Channels and St. Lawrence River Water Levels and Depths," twice monthly, which provides a forecast of depths in the connecting rivers between the Great Lakes and the International Section of the St. Lawrence River. These publications can be obtained free of charge by writing to the address shown on the front cover, or by calling (313) 226-6441. Notices of change of address should include the name of the publication(s). All of these publications can be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.lre.usace.army.mil/glhh>.

Great Lakes Basin Hydrology March 2010

Precipitation was below average across the entire Great Lakes basin in March. Precipitation during the past 12 months is also below average basin wide. The supply of water to the Lake Superior basin was above average in March. Lake Michigan-Huron received below average supply while Lakes Erie and Ontario received above average water supplies. The tables below list March precipitation and water supply information for the entire Great Lakes basin.

All of the Great Lakes were below their long-term (1918-2009) monthly averages in March. Lake Superior and Lake Michigan-Huron were 6 and 9 inches, respectively below average. Lake St. Clair was 6 inches lower than its long term average largely due to ice conditions in the St. Clair River. Lake Erie was 4 inches below average, while Lake Ontario was 5 inches below average in March. Boaters should be aware of hazards to navigation due to current conditions.

PROVISIONAL PRECIPITATION (INCHES)								
BASIN	March				12-Month Comparison			
	2010	Average (1900-2006)	Diff.	% of Average	Average Last 12 Months	Average (1900-2006)	Diff.	% of Average
Superior	0.53	1.74	-1.21	30	22.77	30.45	-7.68	75
Michigan-Huron	0.46	2.14	-1.68	22	29.22	32.30	-3.08	90
Erie	1.59	2.73	-1.14	58	33.45	35.28	-1.83	95
Ontario	2.07	2.66	-0.59	78	34.19	35.65	-1.46	96
Great Lakes	0.82	2.16	-1.34	38	29.03	32.53	-3.50	89

LAKE	March WATER SUPPLIES ¹ (CFS)		March OUTFLOW ² (CFS)	
	2010	Average ⁴ (1900-1999)	2010	Average ³ (1900-1999)
Superior	52,000	46,000	55,000	66,000
Michigan-Huron	120,000	184,000	172,000	171,000
Erie	78,000	72,000	186,000	194,000
Ontario	82,000	75,000	244,000	237,000

Notes: Values (excluding averages) are based on preliminary computations; cfs denotes cubic feet per second.

¹ Negative water supply denotes evaporation from lake exceeded runoff from local basin.

² Does not include diversions.

³ Niagara and St Lawrence rivers average outflows are based on period of record 1900-1989 and 1900-2003, respectively

⁴ Lakes Erie and Ontario average water supplies based on 1900-1989